FBIS DAILY REPORT

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UN PROPOSAL ACCEPTED TO OBTAIN CEASE-FIRE

PY261521 Paris AFP in Spanish 1507 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] New York, 26 May (AFP) -- Today sources close to the UN secretary general have indicated that Argentina accepted a resolution proposal regarding the conflict over the Malvinas which requests the UN secretary general to resume his good offices to obtain, first of all, a cease-fire.

The Argentine agreement will allow the Security Council to adopt a resolution in this regard shortly.

This resolution grants 7 days to Javier Perez de Cuellar to present a report to the council. The resolution proposal was prepared by representatives of Ireland, Japan, Uganda and Zaire.

Perez Mediation Ordered

PY261444 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1815 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] United Nations, 26 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- The Security Council today approved a resolution requesting UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to try to obtain an immediate cease-fire in the conflict for the Malvinas Islands and to report within 7 days about the result of his efforts to the organization.

He was also authorized to send observers of the United Nations, if needed, to confirm the fulfillment of the cease-fire terms.

The resolution reasserted the 3 April call of the council for an end to hostilities, the withdrawal of Argentines from the islands and a negotiated solution.

The council's decision was recorded as Resolution 505.

It was proposed by Guyana, Ireland, Jordan, Togo, Uganda and Zaire, whose delegates jointly reviewed and revised the draft of a resolution originally submitted by Ireland, proposing a 72-hour truce.

The truce was considered unacceptable by Great Britain, which has a right to veto.

UN Representative To Return

PY262257 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2253 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (NA) -- A reliable source from San Martin Palace has reported that the Argentine representative to the United Nations, Eduardo Roca, will leave tonight for Buenos Aires "for health reasons."

GALTIERI REPLIES TO REAGAN'S 25 MAY MESSAGE

PY270451 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0400 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (TELAM) -- President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri has sent a message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan in response to his note on the occasion of the commemoration of 25 May.

Following is the text of Galtieri's letter to Reagan:

If our people and government were surprised over the unexpected attitude that the United States adopted in supporting Great Britain in its conflict with Argentina, on receiving your congratulations on the 25 May celebrations today, the Argentines people and government could not be more surprised.

The assertion made therein that never before has it been so important to reassert the common interests and values which tie Argentina and the United States and to reiterate the commitment we made to cooperate in this hemisphere and in the entire world is not in keeping with the attitude of your government and cannot be understood under the present circumstances.

[Signed] Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, president of the Argentine nation.

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM COMODORO RIVADAVIA

PY261246 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1202 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Comodoro Rivadavia, 26 May (TELAM) -- The presidential plane T-01 left for the federal capital at 0830, on board is the commander in chief of the army and head of the executive branch, Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri.

The president departed from Gen Enrique Masconi Airport. Present to bid him farewell were V Corps commander Maj Gen Jorge Osvaldo Garcia, members of his staff and high-ranking officers of the local air brigade.

Galtieri Arrives

PY261354 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1346 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (NA) -- The president of the republic, Lt Gen Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, arrived at 1035 at the metropolitan airport in Buenos Aires, from Comodoro Rivadavia.

Praises Pilots

PY261810 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1745 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (TELAM) -- President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri, upon returning to Government House after visiting the southern part of the country and commenting on the actions carried out by Argentine forces yesterday, said:

"Once again our pilots of the air force and naval aviation, linked in close action against the enemy, were able to achieve on 25 May another important milestone in the bloody events we are experiencing. A victory no doubt will be recorded in the glorious pages of our history showing the high spirit of self-denial and sacrifice of our pilots in defense of national honor."

TWO HOUR MILITARY JUNTA MEETING ENDS 26 MAY

PY270024 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0015 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (TELAM) -- The meeting of the military junta which was being held in the Libertad Building, the seat of the headquarters of the navy, ended at 2025 [2335 GMT].

The meeting, which lasted for over 2 hours, was attended by the commanders in chief of the three forces.

COSTA MENDEZ TO ATTEND HAVANA MEETING 29 MAY

PY270206 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2315 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (TELAM) -- It was reported at San Martin Palace that Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez will chair the Argentine delegation that will attend the meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the Movement of Nonaligned Countries that will begin in Havana, Cuba, next Saturday, "if the events that take place within the next few days permit him to do so."

Should Costa Mendez not be able to attend the meeting, the Argentine delegation will be chaired by Foreign Relations Under Secretary Enrique Ros.

The delegation, whether chaired by Costa Mendez or Ros, will be made up of Minister Plenipotentiary Jose Sanchez Munoz, adviser Luis Cappagli, and Secretaries Juan Jose Morelli, Raul Ricardes and Jose Maria Otegui. Ricardes and Otegui are secretaries accredited to the Unites States.

The meeting to be held in Havana will be at ministerial level, and it will be a preliminary meeting to the summit of chiefs of state that is scheduled to be held in Baghdad, Iraq, on 6 September 1982.

COSTA MENDEZ ON REPORTS OF U.S. WEAPONS FOR UK

PY262321 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1846 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] United Nations, 26 May (LATIN-REUTER) — Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez said today that he was astonished by reports that the United States was considering supplying arms to Britain.

He said that such an action would hurt the United States in Latin America and that it may intensify the war over the Malvinas.

He also denied a statement attributed to Secretary of State Alexander Haig yesterday, that Britain was close to winning the conflict. Costa Mendez said that the opposite was true.

Talking to reporters at the United Nations, he said he hoped press reports he has seen about U.S. arms supplies to Britain were not true. If they were true, it would be a serious mistake and it could create a highly negative image throughout all Latin America and it could even cause the conflict to expand instead of lessening.

Speaking in English, Costa Mendez said: I am surprised, more than surprised, I would say astonished, at the statement by Secretary of State Alexander Haig. I hope this statement has not been correctly published because I cannot believe that the United States thinks that the best way to help peace is to send, sell or provide arms to one of the parties.

The minister said that he was referring to reports about the possibility that the United States may supply rockets, missiles and all sort of arms to Britain.

Asked by a Spanish journalist about reports quoting Haig as saying that Britain was close to winning the war against Argentina, the minister answered in Spanish, saying: I do not agree. After what happened yesterday, victory has moved away from Britain. He was apparently referring to the sinking of a British destroyer and a British cargo ship.

He then gave his own English version, saying that he was stunned by what he described as the stubbornness that Britain is still showing, and by the complete disproportion between what Great Britain is doing, the way British is waging this war and the things that are at stake. But when asked whether he foresaw possibilities for success in the new round of peace negotiations to be started by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, he answered: Yes, because I think this war is beginning to be so cruel and the number of lives lost so high, that I believe public opinion will pressure governments and the United Nations toward peace.

He added: Because as human beings -- and I believe this is what we must have in mind above all else, human beings — we should seek peace and struggle for peace and struggle for the cause of peace.

Costa Mendez was not enthusiastic over a resolution which was about to be adopted by the Security Council and he even described it as unacceptable but, he said, we will tolerate it. He remarked that since Argentina is not a Security Council member it could not vote on it.

Asked about what, in his opinion, the unattractive part of the resolution was which asks the secretary general to start a new mission of peace and to try to attain a cease-fire, Costa Mendez said he would have preferred more continuity between what Perez de Cuellar had achieved during his first initiative -- which he had to give up last week -- and what he was being asked to do now.

U.S. ATTITUDE IN FALKLANDS CRISIS CRITICIZED

PY260927 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2130 GMT 25 May 82

[Article by Jorge Manuel Iglesias: "To Be Able or Not To Be Able, That Is the Question"]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan today received a report from Secretary of State Alexander Haig indicating that the British appear to be in a military condition to conclude the war in the Malvinas shortly. Feeling reassured by this, the president left for California on a 1-week vacation.

That is the level of information with which the North Americans work, through their British partners.

On the other end of the continent, Argentine President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri received a roundup of the warlike actions carried out since 1 May, reporting that the British have thus far lost 19 ships of various kinds, had another 27 ships damaged and 28 Sea Harrier planes downed.

Feeling uneasy over the loss of men and war material by Argentina and by the enemy, President Galtieri also departed, but not on vacation. He left for the southern part of the country, for that Argentine south where the fate of the country and that of the world are at stake.

One of them chose to leave on vacation, and the other one did not hesitate to go to see what is happening down there.

One of them turned his back on the conflict which is seriously jeopardizing the world balance in his own continent, and he left surrounded by a throng of cameramen and photographers who will disseminate his moments of idleness to all the world. The other one left for the area of the conflict, without journalists or photographers, to encourage his people and to find out how the enemy is doing.

We are living in a contradictory world.

The one who decided that it was high time for him to leave on vacation supported Great Britain contending that Argentina had used force to recover its islands. This we cannot tolerate, and let us see why:

As of the end of the World War II, the United States has tolerated the use of force by the USSR to subdue various peoples and to conquer territories, and it never did anything against it. It allowed the USSR to gain possession of Eastern Europe despite the fact that the Yalta Treaty guaranteed the holding of free elections. Then it allowed Cuba to fall into the hands of communists by giving its support to Castro at the beginning and later on abandoning those who attempted to reconquer it.

For the defense of the subdued Afghanistan, it only decreed two embargoes which had no practical results, and it refused to support those who had resisted the invasion. However, it allows the British to use its bases, it gives them invaluable information which is gathered by their satellites and spies, and it allows its diplomats to attempt to destabilize the Argentine Government.

On their part, the British do not accept the Argentine position regarding the Malvinas, contending that they cannot accept that the Kelpers fate could be decided on without them participating. However, only 17 years ago those same British sold the Diego Garcia island to the North Americans and moved their people to Mauritius. And they neither asked their opinion nor asked them to vote on it.

In the United Nations, the Argentine recovery of the Malvinas Islands was objected on the contention that decolonization cannot be made through force. But in 1961, when India invaded the Portuguese colony of Goa, the United Nations not only did absolutely nothing about it, it even went as far as rejecting the mere condemnation of a principle requested by Portugal.

There is no doubt that this world in which we are bound to live and suffer is a contradictory one. However, there are some interesting conclusions that stem from all these background data:

The first one is that force cannot be used in international policy, unless that country which uses it has atomic submarines and a very advanced technology to support it.

The second conclusion is that a community cannot be affected without its consent, unless interests are included which will benefit the United States and its intimate allies.

The third conclusion is that decolonization cannot be done through force, unless those who do it this way are protected by the United States and its intimate allies.

The fourth conclusion is that the principles of international law cannot be violated unless one of the large powers will profit from it.

The fifth conclusion is that we are living in a contradictory world due to the hypocritical way in which the large powers handle rights and obligations. And not only we, the Argentines but all Latin America as well, are victims of this handling by those who feign and pretend to show what they do not feel and what they are not, in accordance with their interests.

It is worthwhile asking one last question: To which Western world do we belong and who is the one who violates its principles?

FORMER PRESIDENT SCORES U.S. PRESENCE IN CONFLICT

PY261717 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2005 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 May (NA) -- Former Argentine President Gen Roberto Levingston stated today that in the beginning the United States "was the psychological enemy because of the pressure it was exerting, and that now it is the military enemy," adding that Argentina must resort to any assistance available and recalling that the Western powers were allies of the Soviet Union during World War II and this did not result in them becoming communists."

Levingston was interviewed by Radio Mitre, and he indicated that he had no doubts that the government "will do everything necessary."

Levingston stated that the "Argentine difficulties in this present conflict are consequences of the U.S. presence in the conflict from the very beginning and even before the departure of the British fleet toward the South Atlantic, because of its support of the United Kingdom.

"The presence of the United States in the conflict had already started when the incredible General Haig was carrying out his 'good offices' mission in Buenos Aires, that is to say, at that time the United States was already making available to the British at Ascension Island the material they are using in establishing the beachhead we are confronted with now."

Levingston stated that the United States from the start was the "psychological enemy because of the pressure, and now it is the military enemy because the only thing that Great Britain does not need are men, but it does need the material the United States places in the hands of those men."

LA PRENSA SCORES NATO STAND ON SOUTH ATLANTIC

PY262053 Buenos Aires International Service in English 1630 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] To realize the internationalization of the conflict caused by Great Britain in the South Atlantic, it is sufficient to recall the agencies and entities that have referred to it. From different angles, the Malvinas issue has become a matter of no little significance to everybody.

Beyond the majority backing that we have received from different places, we are interested in commenting on those that, in opposition to our stand, do nothing but harm the structure of the West which they themselves say they are trying to consolidate.

In this respect, we want to read an editorial published in LA PRENSA of Buenos Aires, under the title of "NATO and the Malvinas." It reads:

The declaration of total and unconditional support for Great Britain in the Malvinas conflict made by the secretary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization -- NATO -- in the name of that organization, cannot but cause profound amazement.

And the commentator adds that if that country found itself obliged to adopt harder measures in the zone of conflict, he did not think that the said backing would disappear. The Atlantic pact must be taken as a defense alliance limited to a determined geographic region. It is, therefore, strange that in the first place, said mechanism should be able to be put, into operation to strengthen an action of such a manifestly offensive nature as that the zone of the conflict is situated at a great distance from the region assigned to NATO for its custody and eventual protection, which is no other than the North Atlantic and that of the European nations whose shores are faced by that part of the ocean or the Mediterranean which lies next to it.

So that it is neither in pursuance of its terms of reference, nor in the place of action that the intervention or interference of that military agency in the Argentine-British conflict can be admitted. But in addition to the foregoing, it should be borne in mind that the purpose that inspired its establishment in the year 1949 was one of forming a solid defensive bastion for the Western democracies in the view of growing Soviet expansionism. It does not require much effort to agree that the question of sovereignty over the southern islands and its effective exercise by Argentina has nothing to do with the problem of communist aggression. That in itself would be sufficient evidence of the excess incurred by NATO through its official representative, in postulating such an open support for one of the parties in a dispute that has nothing to do with it.

This procedure is neither benefitted nor set right by the circumstance that Great Britain is one of the powers that formed that defensive pact to which we referred, since the latter's action cannot go beyond the limits and objectives set forth in its creation.

Furthermore, this mistaken or perhaps interested solidarity was not shown on other occasions, like for example, in the war in Vietnam, in which the Atlantic alliance made no statement, despite the fact that one of its members was participating therein. And that was a typical case of communist aggression.

In view of the foregoing, NATO's decision has caused well-founded concern regarding the sincerity of the motives upheld, and arouses serious doubts as to the manner in which mechanisms governed within the framework of Western values are behaving.

COMMENTATOR SEES COUNTRY AT WAR WITH WEST

FY270636 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 May 82 pp 1,6

[Article by J. Iglesias Rouco: "Struggle With Moderation"]

[Excerpts] There were undoubtedly several reasons behind the decision made yesterday by the EEC to impose sanctions for an indefinite period against Argentina. In the first place, the EEC may have begun to believe in the possibility of a British total victory after Friday's landing. Unfortunately, the lack, or at least the delay with which reports on the military actions in the south -- especially those on the islands -- are released here contribute to fomenting doubts among the public and thus plays into the hands of the British whose psychological campaign is aimed at building an atmosphere of defeat. Therefore, the authorities must change their information policy.

The EEC sanctions are significant not only because of their timing -- we repeat, they were adopted only 3 days after the British landing -- but because they mark a change in the position of EEC member countries which only a week ago were far more reluctant to support Great Britain. In this respect it is proper to note that at the meeting held in Brussels from 16 to 18 May, Britain's partners agreed to extend the sanctions for only 7 days after harsh discussions and hesitations at a time when very little or almost nothing could be expected from the talks at the United Nations. But we should also consider another circumstance: Yesterday's EEC decision coincided with remarks made by Mr Pym about the possibility of the West establishing "a security pact" in the South Atlantic in case of an eventual "recovery of the islands by Great Britain."

Pym's suggestion reveals not only the presumed intentions by Washington and London regarding the Malvinas and other islands of the region, but also the true magnitude of the conflict. That "security pact" would obviously lead to the installation of a military base on that territory without any participation by Buenos Aires -- especially if the British succeed, as they have promised their allies, in forcing us out of the Malvinas -- and would thus give credence to reports released by Latin American military groups to the effect that that was precisely the intention of London and Washington before 2 April; a circumstance which in the opinion of those who subscribe to this theory was the decisive factor that prompted the Argentine operation launched on that day.

In view of this and several other reasons, including NATO's political-military prestige and the losses sustained by Great Britain thus far, the ideas expressed by several local sectors do not appear to be unfounded. These sectors, such as those represented by [former Economy Minister] Mr Alsogaray, point to the usefulness of accepting an agreement whereby the islands would be administered by the United Nations, even if this plan did not consider certain Argentine basic rights. They contend that the alternative would be a war with the entire West which would far exceed the initial objectives Argentine had on the Malvinas, and would even endanger the future of Argentina as a relatively independent country.

In view of the position adopted by our enemy and by its allies, we are actually tempted to consider the above as a valid alternative and urge our fellow countrymen, not only those who are now in the Malvinas and those who are in our armed forces, to fight to the last drop of blood. It would be appropriate, however, to listen to all sectors and to adequately consider every prospect, excluding of course those entailing a collective suicide or dishonor. In the first place we must ask ourselves whether we have adequate forces to face up to the challenge posed before us today, not only by Great Britain but by the West, and how much longer will we be able to have these forces given the proportions of this war. We also have to know whether we can get some help in that area known as the West, especially in Latin America; what kind of help we can get and when; and the extent to which the nations of the continent are willing to fight physically on our side; and, otherwise, whether we want or will it be possible for us to turn to the Soviets for military and economic support and how much we would pay or would be willing to pay for that help.

U.S. GENERAL REPORTEDLY ON BOARD QUEEN ELIZABETH

PY270012 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2308 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (NA) -- A high-ranking officer of the U.S. Army, who specializes in setting up sophisticated radar systems, presumably is a member of the crew of the British ship Queen Elizabeth, according to what was allegedly learned by high-ranking military sources.

This high-ranking officer presumably is Jeremias Moore, a one-star general, which is equivalent to the rank of brigadier general in the Argentine Army.

According to the Argentine intelligence service, the object of Moore's trip would be to set up one of those sophisticated radar systems in the area of San Carlos on the Malvinas Islands, where the British forces have established a beachhead.

Although the fact that General Moore is on board the Queen Elizabeth is presumably the only thing that is known for certain, the possibility of his being accompanied by other technicians who are specialized in this type of work is not dismissed in military circles.

The news on the U.S. intervention in the British aggression has caused unconcealable reactions in military circles, and the possibility of this causing a protest to be filed to the U.S. Government is not being dismissed.

REPORTAGE ON FALKLANDS MILITARY OPERATIONS

Sea Harrier Shot Down

PY261326 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1312 GMT 26 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 90]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports that the coastal patrol craft Rio Iguazu of the Argentine naval coast guard was attacked by two Sea Harrier planes during combat operations in the Malvinas area while carrying out a mission ordered by the Malvinas military command. During the clash, one of the planes was shot down by anti-aircraft fire of the crew. The attack resulted in one dead and two wounded among our own forces. Next of kin have been informed.

Details on 25 May Attacks

PY261439 Paris AFP in Spanish 1334 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (AFP) -- The newspaper LA PRENSA reported today that two French Exocet missiles were fired by Super Etendart airplanes of the Argentine Navy in the violent battle which took place yesterday, Tuesday, against British ships near the coast of the Malvinas Islands.

According to the newspaper LA NACION, which cites naval sources, the missiles (the same kind used against the British destroyer Sheffield) made impact on two logistic support and transport ships.

The same source indicated that those transport ships, which can embark up to 800 men, were carrying tanks, explosives and ammunition.

The newspaper CLARIN also states that two Super Etendard planes carried out a defensive observation operation on Tuesday against two objectives, very large objectives according to the airplanes radar. Nevertheless, due to the distance (the Exocet missiles are fired from dozens of kilometers), the pilots could not see the result of their shots.

Communique Confirms Sinking

PY261741 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1719 GMT 26 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 92]

[Text] The Joint Staff, expanding on Communique No 91, reports:

1. The missile-launching destroyer Coventry, MK 42, was sunk by aircraft of the Argentine Air Force using bombs.

2. The airplane transporter Atlantic Conveyer was sunk 110 miles northeast of the main British fleet by Super Etendard airplanes of the Argentine Navy, which hit the ship with Exocet missiles.

The transport ship was carrying an undetermined number of Sea Harrier airplanes, which sank with the ship.

It should be noted that the transport ship was carrying aircraft for reinforcement, that it was intended to provide logistical support and that it was outfitted to allow the vertical take-off of the above mentioned planes.

British Losses Listed

PY261836 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1820 GMT 26 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 93]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports that as a result of the military actions carried out in the Malvinas area from 1 May to 26 May 1982, the material losses suffered by the enemy are:

Ships sunk: two destroyers, named by Great Britain Sheffield and Coventry; two frigates, named Ardent and Antelope; an unidentified frigate; an aircraft transport named the Atlantic Conveyor carrying an undetermined number of Sea Harriers on board and spare parts and maintenance material.

Ships seriously damaged: Three destroyers or frigates; one large transport. Ships damaged: ten destroyers or frigates; one troop transport; an unidentified ship, possibly a support ship; 21 Sea Harriers and 12 helicopters shot down.

This represents a total of 22 naval surface units and 33 aircraft.

UK Hospital Ship in San Carlos

PY262057 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2042 GMT 26 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 94]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports that today, 26 May 1982, the British hospital ship Uganda has been located in the Ruiz Puente Bay of the Strait of San Carlos, Malvinas Islands. Its presence near the zone of operations is interfering with the actions of the Argentine forces in addition to being a serious risk for the life of the sick people on board the ship since it is practically impossible to insure that they will not be involuntary victims in a possible attack.

The British Government has been informed through the Argentine Foreign Ministry of this and asked to put an end to this situation.

Communique on Operations

PY262226 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 26 May 82

[Joint Staff Communique No 95]

[Text] The Joint Staff reports the following news regarding the operations of the Argentine Army in the Malvinas Islands:

Units of our infantry maintain contact with the aggressor troops, preserving their combat potential intact. The fire of our infantry has caused the enemy the following losses:

Two Sea King helicopters shot down, from which only one survivor has been reported; two helicopters seriously damaged; an undetermined number of casualties among the Royal Marines.

Units of armored cavalry are carrying out exploration and security tasks in order to deny space and freedom of action to the aggressor forces which are confined in a pocket of about 150 square kilometers.

Highly trained troops are carrying out harassment activities deep inside the enemy positions; the evaluation and results of these operations will be reported in due course.

Officer Comments on Actions

PY270139 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1635 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 May (TELAM) -- In talks held today with a high-ranking military officer, it was possible to learn that the existing situation on the Malvinas Islands, and more specifically in the zone of San Carlos Bay, is not alarming. The officer explained that the zone occupied by British invaders is 150 hectares [as received] in area and therefore it is not very large.

He also said that the term bridgehead employed in Joint Staff Communique No 86 is a technical term but that it does not represent a serious threat for the Argentine forces.

He also stated that the British are making tremendous efforts to provide material and personnel to those who landed, but that due to the air force actions, most of their attempts were frustrated.

The spokesman stated that taking into account the special characteristics of this war and the use of infantry troops, including the decisive influence of terrain and climate, the commander who makes a decision must imbue these troops with the importance of the mission and the objective to be maintained without being influenced by the strategy of the enemy which is not always clear during the initial confrontations of the battle.

NEW ZEALAND TO REPLACE UK SHIP IN INDIAN OCEAN

PY261713 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1503 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Singapore, 16 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- The New Zealand frigate Canterbury arrived here today on a mission which may permit a British warship stationed in the Indian Ocean to join the British task force in the area of the Malvinas Islands.

The commander of the Canterbury, Capt Christopher Carl, told reporters that his arrival was part of New Zealand's promised logistical support to Great Britain outside the Malvinas war zone.

He said: My government has offered the Canterbury to the Royal Navy due to the problems in the Malvinas. It has been accepted and the frigate will be delivered to the British for its use in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf area.

Three British ships stationed in the Indian Ocean, the frigates Ajax and Amazon and the tanker Rover, arrived from the Gulf of Oman here yesterday.

Asked if the Canterbury would replace the Amazon -- sister ship of the frigates Ardent and Antelope sunk near the Malvinas Islands a few days ago -- Captain Carl said: That I could not say, but it is possible that we may relieve one of those ships.

The Canterbury and the British ships are going to take part in naval exercises before departing for the Indian Ocean.

POPE JOHN PAUL II TO VISIT ON 11, 12 JUNE

PY261603 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1545 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 May (TELAM) -- It has been officially announced at Government House that Pope John Paul II will come to Argentina on 11 and 12 June. The announcement was made after the audience which President Galtieri granted to the delegate of the holy father.

PRISONER MAY NOT COME UNDER GENEVA CONVENTIONS

PY261444 Paris AFP in Spanish 1415 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Geneva, Switzerland, 26 May (AFP) -- The case of Argentine Capt Alfredo Astiz, claimed by Sweden and France on charges of crimes outside the conflict during which he was taken prisoner, apparently does not fall under any of the 1949 Geneva Conventions on Prisoners of War.

Those conventions, officially entrusted to the Red Cross International Committee, foresee the prosecution of a prisoner of war only in violations of the laws of the power which took him prisoner.

OFFICIAL ON STRENGTHENING LATIN AMERICAN TRADE

PY270129 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2153 GMT 17 May 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 May (NA) -- A decrease in price of raw materials coming from the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), an increase utilization of agreements on accounts and flexibility or freeing of quotas are the three points on which Argentina will begin a definite action to strengthen trade relations with Latin America.

This was disclosed today by Foreign Trade Under Secretary Jorge Caminotti, who also confirmed that Venezuela had adopted a "political decision" to turn investments up to $1 billion toward the Argentine financial market.

Caminotti talked about these subjects at a press conference called to report on his recent trip to Caracas and Lima to see about the prospects for a rapid increase in bilateral trade with these two countries and with the Andean Pact bloc.

In relation to overall features of the Argentine relations with the other Latin American countries, Caminotti indicated that they should be expanded, initially establishing a decrease in price of raw materials coming from the region and, to this end, setting up a reduction in tariffs.

He also thought that the utilization of reciprocal "agreements on accounts" opened at the central banks of the Latin American countries should be increased, "especially since the system allows quarterly amortizations, thus placing Argentina in greater ease over its foreign currency."

He then mentioned another action to be taken: "the flexibility or freeing of quotas which limit the entry of goods coming from Latin American countries."

Caminotti pointed out that these were not just his own ideas, but that the issues "had been discussed with officials of the Central Bank and of the Finance Ministry, and that they had agreed on the need to implement them."

The foreign trade under secretary stated that "this must be the definite response Argentina must give to the other Latin American countries' considering the extensive support received at this critical moment and that "ignoring it would be stupid. He added that "it would likewise be stupid to ignore the serious political situation implied by the sanctions imposed by the European Economic Community, which go beyond economic harm."

As to his steps in Venezuela, the under secretary stated that a "political decision" to make investments in the Argentine financial system which, according to reports abroad range from $700 million to $1 billion, was adopted in Caracas and that this would allow Argentina to increase its [words indistinct] at the present critical moment.

According to references obtained by a Venezuelan Government officials, the under secretary stated that [words indistinct] the decision, but also that the report on the issue was technically believed "very good" [word indistinct] the Argentine officials.

Regarding relations with Venezuela, he also stated that overall proposals were expressed to reduce tariffs on the importation of Argentine products, particularly of the agricultural sector.

In exchange, Argentina would be willing to purchase oil, even though [word indistinct] "maintain a guideline in relation to its commitments to export crude which would basically allow small sales this year which would then be increased during 1983." Contacts were made [words indistinct] official and private. These contacts will continue throughout the month in order to implement the "needed" mechanisms towards a quick increase of trade.

Similar contacts and proposals were made in Lima, mainly with representatives of the Cartagena Agreement which has its permanent headquarters in the Peruvian capital, in order to prepare the meeting which will be held late this month during which Argentine relations with countries of this economic bloc will be reviewed.

Two meetings will be held within this framework; the first to "quickly" decide on measures which may help the exportation of surplus Argentine primary products and the second to make further studies towards reviewing, among other things, the extent of mutual preference to help achieve increased trade.

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES LIFTING OF RESTRICTIONS

PY270305 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpts] The government has decided to lift the restrictive measures that have been in force since 17 July 1980, thus reestablishing all rights included in the Human Rights Declaration. Making this important announcement, President Celso Torrelio said:

[Begin recording] I appeal fervently to all Bolivians to act with the patriotic maturity that the present circumstances demand so that we will be able to make a joint effort in a responsible and calm manner to achieve a permanent and responsible democracy in keeping with the great national interests. This is the sincere wish of your leader. [end recording]

Content of Decree

PA270315 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 May 82

[Excerpt] The interior minister has released all documents concerning the lifting of restrictions on the activities of political, union, professional and business associations. This was done at 1450 after the presidential announcement, which was made at 1445. The resolution, Decree No 18,957, reads:

1. The recess in force on union organizations, business and professional associations is hereby lifted and Decree No 17,531 of 21 July 1980 is hereby repealed.

2. As of today union organizations must normalize their activities in compliance with the general labor law and other dispositions.

Moreover, Decree No 18,958, automatically repeals Decree No 17,668 of 7 October 1980 on the freezing of union funds.

Decree No 18,958 states in Article 1: The temporary statute of the Bolivian University approved through Decree 18,000/18,007 of 13 April 1981 is hereby repealed. Article 2: The officials and administrative personnel of the former Bolivian University National Council will continue in their posts in compliance with regulations established by the government. Article 3: While the University Council is established, the Education Ministry will appoint an administrative officer to safeguard the operation and properties of the former Bolivian University National Council.

Measure Termed Positive

PY270702 Paris AFP in Spanish 0442 GMT 27 May 82

[Text] -- The decision to grant a general and unrestrictive amnesty and to lift the political ban was assessed positively here today by labor unions and political parties, although they expressed hope that the measures would be implemented effectively.

The Bolivian Labor Federation, led by Juan Lechin Oquendo, remarked that the measure is an important one but that it will have to be implemented without restrictions of any type. The National Revolutionary Movement, led by Victor Paz, and the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left, led by Hernan Siles, accepted the measure through their spokesman, Julio Garret and Mario Velarde, respectively. However, they noted that the measure must be implemented immediately. A similar attitude was expressed by the Nationalist Democratic Action, led by Hugo Banzer. It noted that the measure is an important opening toward democracy.

VICE PRESIDENT SEES NEED TO REEQUIP ARMED FORCES

PY261453 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] The need for Brazil to reequip its military in view of the conflict in the South Atlantic was again justified in Sao Paulo by Vice President Aureliano Chaves. Talking to reporter Amorim Filho at Congonha Airport, Chaves stated that a country as large as Brazil, with such tremendous responsibility in the international field, must not have weak armed forces:

[Begin recording] A country the size of Brazil, with a such a great responsibility in the international field, cannot have weak armed forces. We must act appropriately, according to our needs. The reequipping of the armed forces must be done in a timely way and in keeping with our resources. It is the responsibility of the government. The reequipping must be in line with our needs and the availability of resources.

[Question] Is it possible that this is (?not) the opportune time?

[Answer] No. Any time is right to study the possibility of establishing the means to allow a readjustment of our needs and available resources [words indistinct] and it is not precisely what they want. [end recording]

AIR MINISTER SAYS BRITISH PAYING HIGH PRICE

PY262218 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1914 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Brasilia, 26 May (TELAM) -- Gen Delio Jardim de Mattos, Brazilian aeronautics minister, has said that the British are paying a high price to punish Argentina.

The press today revealed that Jardim de Mattos made these remarks during a reception given by Argentine Ambassador Hugo Caminos yesterday on the 172d anniversary of Argentine independence.

Regarding the imminent meeting on the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR), announced by Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez and the possibility that the Buenos Aires government will ask for direct military aid, the aeronautics minister said wars are fought to win, and this is why alliances exist.

Jardim de Mattos a few days ago criticized U.S. support for Great Britain, saying that the so-called traditional alliances are nothing more than rhetoric.

SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS MEET PRESS IN MEXICO CITY

FL262140 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2013 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Representatives of the FMLN and the Democratic Revolutionary Front said a negotiated political solution must be reached in the Salvadoran conflict. Salvadoran revolutionary leaders Ruben Zamora and Jose Rodriguez Ruiz held a press conference in Mexico City at which they denounced the ambigously worded dialogue formula proposed by the Salvadoran regime. They stressed that dialogue without negotiation is a trap, and they challenged the regime to define the maneuver's aim and to say whether it is capable of reaching a political solution with all parties to the conflict.

They also charged that the Salvadoran Army is preparing a final offensive against the revolutionary forces which former Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson says will cost the country some 100,000 dead. The revolutionary leaders asserted that the offensive planned by the regime will fail like previous ones because of the guerrilla's capability. They recalled that the United States is preparing to give fresh military aid because it has no faith in the success of the regime's plans.

Zamora and Rodriguez said Argentine military personnel engaged in counterinsurgency operations in El Salvador were withdrawn from the area when the conflict with Great Britain over the Malvinas broke out.

They concluded the press conference by describing the regime led by Alvaro Magana as extremely weak internally because of the disparate forces that comprise it and the new discrepancies caused by opposition to the agrarian reform and the possible return of banks to private hands.

MEXICAN, HUNGARIAN MINISTRIES ISSUE COMMUNIQUE

FL261437 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2330 GMT 25 May 82

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 25 May (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico and Hungary have called for an end to violence and for eliminating the remnants of colonialism and condemned the use of force, the Secretariat of Foreign Relations announced here today. Mexico's Foreign Secretary Jorge Castaneda and Hungary's Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja signed a joint communique at the end of Castaneda's visit to Hungary.

The foreign ministers' joint communique supports the efforts of the United Nations to preserve peace and strengthen international security. The parties agree that present international conditions lean toward an escalation of the arms race and the return to the cold war. They considered very important the ongoing efforts of peace-loving countries to resolve problems in different areas of the world. The joint communique stages that it would benefit mankind to rid the world of nuclear arms and rejects the idea of an all-out nuclear war or the theory of a limited nuclear war.

Castaneda discussed the Central American and Caribbean situation and pointed out that the San Jose energy cooperation accord promotes economic development projects in the area as a means to alleviate political problems in those regions. The parties acknowledged that there is "a growth of protectionist measures which hinder international trade," and state that the alternative for resolving international economic problems is global negotiations within the United Nations.

Castaneda in GDR

For GDR reportage in the visit by Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda, see the GDR section of the 26 May Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

RESIGNATION OF U.S.AMBASSADOR MOSS REPORTED

PA211831 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1715 GMT 21 May 82

[Text] RPC Television obtained an exclusive report this morning from a reliable diplomatic source. According to our reports, Ambler Moss, the U.S. ambassador to Panama, has presented his resignation to President Ronald Reagan. Ambassador Moss will now practice law in Miami, thus leaving the diplomatic corps. The source stressed that Ambassador Moss' resignation will become effective in 2 months, thereby giving the Reagan administration a reasonable length of time to name his replacement.

Moss has been U.S. ambassador to Panama several years, during which he played an important role in the negotiation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and was a key figure in the promotion of good relations between Panama and the United States. Ambassador Moss has earned the esteem of the various social, political, economic and diplomatic circles in our country.

Statesmanship Praised

PA261915 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 26 May 82 p 6-A

["Sparks" column by Rafael Angel Murgas]

[Text] The resignation of Dr Ambler Moss, U.S. ambassador to Panama, has caused considerable comment among the nation's political circles. For me, personally, this amounts to a seperation from a good friend, and for the Panamanian community it means the loss of one of the pioneers of the good contractual relationship between our countries.

Ambassador Moss brought new directions to North American diplomacy, an honest diplomacy. He conveyed this message to the humble citizens of our land and learned the masses' deep feelings. Totally fluent in our language, he understood that there is no hate for North Americans in Panama. We are both fighting to see democracy ensconced as a permanent creed guiding our coexistence in the political community.

We recall that soon after Ambassador Moss arrived in our country, our unforgettable friend, journalist Victor M. Franceschi, hosted a reception for him, three of his secretaries and other guests, including Dr Jose Isaac Fabrega, Dr Diogenes de la Rosa and myself. We talked honestly at this meeting and we appreciated the merits of Ambassador Moss' statesmanship and diplomacy. We knew that we were in the presence of one of the most valuable men in U.S. foreign policy.

Dr Fabrega and Dr de la Rosa discussed international politics, and Ambassador Moss showed great interest in their patriotic statements on relations between our countries, which are committed to a common task for the benefit of the world.

Ambler Moss is a great diplomat. He demonstrated true love for the Panamanian people. His distinguished wife, loving and simple, has been an ideal companion, who contributed to his fulfillment of his important mission. When his angelical daughter was born in Panama, he called her Serena. He was happy that it was a girl and that she was born here.

As President Carter's ambassador, his diplomatic efforts had the mark of that great president's fraternal policy. He was one of the great pioneers, who contributed to the preparation of the new canal treaty. Diplomats are conveyers of the policies of their heads of state. They necessarily serve the interests of their countries above anything else.

These words are a testimony to Ambassador Moss, because of his noble and fraternal gestures.

COSTA RICA

U.S. ATTITUDE, TRUST IN GOVERNMENT 'ENCOURAGING'

PA270123 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 May 82

[Editorial]

[Text] During several visits made this week to the State Department, our officials got the impression that there is a climate of understanding for the Costa Rican problems. Considering our own reality, it is difficult to analyze U.S. feelings from such a distance. It is evident that the change in government has created fertile ground for working on the analysis of the problems. The tense situation that existed with the IMF officials and even the unbelievable lack of understanding that created tension and anguish seem to be disappearing. Our impression is that the signing of agreements with the IMF will be more tolerable now due to our national situation.

For many months the former government had said that the IMF was trying to force our country to sign agreements that would increase the cost of living. That government said the IMF was responsible for the fact that adequate measures to reorganize the national economy could not be taken. Through the Central Bank, the current government has begun taking steps to fairly control the exchange rate. In Washington it was said that this is an internal Costa Rican problem and should therefore be solved with Costa Rican measures. The funny thing about all this is the uproar former President Carazo caused with the IMF for reasons that don't seem to exist today.

After meeting with State Department officials we believe that they are favorably disposed toward Costa Rica. The problem, as always in matters discussed in the United States, is the long debate -- in Congress among the congressmen who, being politicians, have many political interests to defend. Nevertheless, the majority believes that before the end of the year we will see some of the benefits included in the Reagan plan, especially the benefits regarding taxes. In any case, there is hope and trust in the new government and we believe that this in itself is encouraging.

NICARAGUAN GROUP ARRESTED AT NORTHERN BORDER

PA260440 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] A group of 10 or 12 Nicaraguans, allegedly counterrevolutionaries, were arrested today at the northern border for carrying weapons without a permit. The public security minister said that the arrested Nicaraguans were transferred to the Liberia police headquarters. He added that several National Security Agency officials went to Liberia to question the Nicaraguans as to their presence in Costa Rica and their illegal possession of weapons.

The government has sent several civil guard patrols to the northern border for a permanent surveillance of the area. All suspicious foreigners will be arrested. So said by Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano. The minister added that the government wants the government council agreement to be kept; there should be no aggression against any nation from Costa Rica and all foreigners will be asked to abide by our laws.

The public security minister said that the situation along the northern border is calm. He said that the only abnormality is the heavy rains of the last few days. Otherwise everything is calm.

EL SALVADOR

HAVANA RADIO REPORTS FMLN ATTACK ON ORDEN CENTER

PA261930 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] The FMLN of El Salvador has confirmed that its fighters used six bombs to destroy an important military espionage center 17 km from San Salvador. This clandestine center had been operating since 1977 under the direction of retired Gen Jose Alberto Medrano, founder of the paramilitary Nationalist Democratic Organization, ORDEN.

Radio Farabundo Marti said this center furnished the military with addresses and information on persons considered opponents of the regime. The center was also used to monitor and jam the broadcasts of guerrilla stations and as a clandestine jail in which kidnapped persons were tortured.

Managua Radio Reports Attack

PA260443 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] An important espionage center where the Salvadoran regime gathered information and had powerful microwave equipment was dynamited today by FMLN groups. According to the information, this strategic center secretly operated under the direction of Gen Jose Alberto Medrano, was located 17 km east of San Salvador at the intersection of San Martin Street and the San Pedro Perulapan turnoff.

RADIO VENCEREMOS CRITICIZES D'AUBUISSON ROLE

PA251352 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 25 May 82

[Commentary: "Roberto d'Aubuisson, an instrument of the oligarchy"]

[Text] For once D'Aubuisson has been honest enough not to conceal the false interests he serves. When he announces the possibility that the banks will be returned to their former owners, D'Aubuisson is no longer concealing who he serves. Nor does he conceal it when he abolishes Decree 207 on the agrarian reform. Finally, D'Aubuisson does not conceal what interests he serves when he announced measures that will benefit landowners who had their lands expropriated. By restoring the state of siege, which removes individual rights, D'Aubuisson underscores the fact that he is an instrument of the oligarchy, which has again picked up the reins of power through the 28 March electoral farce.

The agrarian reform was a failure from the outset, an attempt to cover up the repression carried out against the people's movement. Stained with the blood of 32,000 Salvadorans, the agrarian reform was a total failure, because it did not include the necessary structural reforms. It only served to frustrate the peasants, whose conditions today are the same or even worse, as they are submerged in debt and stricken by repression.

The sectors who had faith in the results of the false reforms have now realized that the agrarian reform did not benefit the majority at all. And even if it touched some landowners in some way, today, with the abolishment of Decree 207, the oligarchy has regained all of its privileges, while the people remain the victims of injustice perpetrated by a bloody and repressive system. D'Aubuisson controls the fascist government from the highest branch of state, which passes bills and makes the most important political and economic decision. Thus it is D'Aubuisson, together with Garcia, acting from the high military command, who sees that the orders of Reagan's interventionist policy are carried out.

The new government is giving the country yet another period of instability and repression. The peasants, the small landleasers and the small and medium producers will be those most affected by a policy that is intended to serve the oligarchy and the corrupt sectors of the military high command that benefits the bureaucracy, which has been tripled by the three parties associated in this unpatriotic adventure; the national unity of fascism.

The evictions will continue; the loans, all of the state's resources will be channeled toward the plans to ensure the economic recovery of the powerful, represented by those who seized power through the 28 March mockery.

Those who are conspicuously absent in this government are the workers, the students, the teachers and the small and medium businessmen. This government is not ours, it is not the Salvadorans -- it is the imposition of a foreign will. It must be defeated and every Salvadoran should concentrate all effort and sacrifice in this task.

There will be time to sow, to study and to build in peace; but today is the time to take decisive action, to participate in any way, including through the antifascist struggle. Only a government of broad participation, representing the national's interests and all honest and patriotic interests in the country, can put an end to the war and establish a true alternative of peace, justice and true democracy.

We are millions who are struggling for a just cause. Be certain that we are going to win.

GUATEMALA

JUNTA MEMBER CRITICIZES U.S. VIEW, IMPORT POLICY

PA252341 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] Col Francisco Luis Gordillo Martinez, member of the military government junta, today deplored the reports which aides to U.S. senators have made regarding the current situation in Guatemala: [Begin recording] These comments are regrettable. A few days ago, four U.S. senators came to Guatemala to learn about the situation in our country. I doubt that in 4 days they could get a clear and definite picture of the history of a country which they did not even begin to see. Personally, I consider their judgments hasty and uncalled for.

There is a very important aspect which should be considered. In part, our struggle is based on economic factors. However, they have reduced the price of sugar, coffee and cotton, which are among our main exports. If they lower the prices, this will result in unemployment and fewer opportunities for the Guatemalan lower classes. I do not understand how they can act this way and then talk about social justice, when they are the first ones to be unjust. [end recording]

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES $150 MILLION IMF LOAN

PA231833 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1041 GMT 23 May 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 May (LATIN-REUTER) -- The IMF has granted a $150 million loan to Honduras to decrease its balance of payments and budget deficits, according to an official announcement. Gonzalo Carias Fineda, Honduran Central Bank president, said that the government can begin to use the funds next month.

Within the conditions attached to the loan, the Honduran Government must increase taxes on automobiles, color television sets and foreign airline tickets in an effort to decrease the budget deficit, Carias explained. The official added that the authorities agreed to an IMF request to impose strict administrative controls and supervision on government corporations.

Bank sources said that the development bank's inefficient administration has left the civilian government, which has been in office for 4 months, with the difficult task of renegotiating the bank's debt of $200 million, owed to 34 foreign creditors. The government, which has already imposed austerity measures by dismissing more than 3,000 government employees, has been obliged to assume the bank's payments until the foreign debt is renegotiated, the sources added.

The additional financial obligation is a heavy burden for Honduras, Central America's poorest nation, whose economic growth has remained at 2 percent since the outset of the decade. Honduras has been hurt by the drop in the prices of exported raw materials, such as coffee, and is having trouble paying for increased imports, including oil. Last year's deficit amounted to $600 million.

However, the Honduran officials pointed out that the flow of soft credit from foreign governments is an indication that the country is able to meet the payments for its development programs. Last month, Venezuela and Colombia granted loans of $30 million to strengthen Honduras' foreign currency reserves.

In March the World Bank announced that it would lend Honduras $25 million this year and $100 million in 1983.

Commentary on IMF Conditions

PA250322 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 24 May 82

[Commentary by (Amilcar Santamaria)]

[Text] Beginning today, we will cooperate with "El Diario Matutino" twice each week [name of newscast] to give opinions on what is happening. Today, since this is a current subject of importance, we will discuss the talks held in our country with IMF representatives in search of a solution, even a partial solution, to the acute problem of the lack of financial solvency that our country is experiencing and to its budget and fiscal inbalance. In view of this, we offer the following commentary:

If we are to believe the bulletin issued by the Honduran Central Bank, the IMF and our country have agreed, in principle, on a collective plan whereby Honduras will receive $150 million between 1982 and 1983 to solve, at least partially, its serious financial difficulties. Please note, dear listener, that this is an agreement, in principle, which is an agreement subject to amendments depending on certain events that will determine whether it will become a formal agreement or just a statement of good intentions.

The negotiations with the IMF representatives lasted almost 1 month and they were probably the most difficult in our turbulent history. The IMF experts came to Tegucigalpa with their traditional economic recipes, which were completely devoid of the necessary political requirements. The IMF representatives pressured the government into accepting the IMF plan to overcome the budget deficit with new taxes and the imbalance in the balance of payment with an almost total end to imports.

First, the idea is to squeeze the people even more. A people who hardly make enough to live. Second, the purpose is to reduce our level of consumption to the smallest level.

You don't need to be an Adam Smith to know that the quality of life of a people is easily measured by its consumption. It is difficult for our people to find enough beans and rice to go around. And the IMF wants us to eat less, and worse. Meanwhile, the funds devoted to the weapons purchases for El Salvador add up to an unbelievable amount for a country that, doubtlessly, is the smallest in Central America.

Recently a U.S. Senate committee decided to prevent any country in our region from receiving more than $75 million of the $350 million that make up the initial amount for Reagan's plan for the Caribbean and Central America.

The reason for this is to prevent the Reagan administration from giving the majority of these funds to El Salvador, leaving Honduras, Costa Rica and other countries of the area out in the cold. It seems silly to repeat this, but it is necessary: This country has chosen the path of democracy, freedom and peace. We have, thanks to our collective effort and to God's will, an honest and sensible government with limitations as far as talents are concerned but with a good will and a desire to struggle against underdevelopment. But these men, who should be essential at the time of requesting foreign aid, do not seem to be of much importance of the IMF or to their godparents who are, of course, the men who hold power in the United States.

To have real access to the $150 million specified in the IMF proposal, we must apply a new austerity plan and financial discipline. Where will this plan lead us? To dire poverty and depriving the poor of food. If the lack of feelings of these so-called IMF experts is not moderated by Washington, there will be an outbreak of violence here. And those who have more to lose -- the supreme leaders of U.S. foreign policy -- will be responsible.

NICARAGUA

WHEELOCK DISTRIBUTES AGRARIAN REFORM LAND TITLES

PA241659 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 May 82

[Text] A total of 8,500 manzanas of land were distributed yesterday to 16 cooperatives of the area of Boaco and Chontales. Commander of the revolution Jaime Wheelock, agriculture and agrarian reform minister, handed out the agrarian reform titles during a ceremony in (Somoapa) stadium. This land is part of the 100,000 manzanas expropriated in the region, mostly from Somozists and large landholders who for many years lived from the work and sweat of our peasants.

We are going to take a firm step in this region, Commander Wheelock said, because the peasants of this region have had to exist in a dramatic and bitter way with the idle large landed estates which developed under the protection of the conservative and liberal governments. Wheelock also said that the region has many difficulties and that the revolution plans to reform it so that its lands will become the source of dignity and progress for the region. Here is Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock addressing the peasants of Boaco and Chontales:

[Begin recording] We are also quite willing to guarantee the land, property and improvement of the small and medium producers in the two departments. The revolution's policy favors those who are landless by giving them the lands of the usurping Somozists and the lands of the large landowners who unnecessarily and ignobly seized lands despite the needs of the peasants.

The idle land... [slogan indistinct from audience]. That is the policy of the revolution. We do not want to affect families. We do not want to evict anyone who for some reason, perhaps for reasons of inheritance or other factors, accumulated large amounts of land. By distributing the idle land so it will be worked, we are not confiscating land from anyone. Instead, we are promoting a forced sale of that land which will be properly purchased with savings from the financial system. We expropriate a property and we automatically deliver an amount of money that has been on deposit in the financial system. This money earns interest. Therefore, even though we admit that the large landed estates are unjust, we are not acting in an insensitive way. Instead, we want that owner who does not work his land to have resources to dedicate himself to other tasks, to involve himself in work that dignifies him as a man and that integrates him into this society.

That is why in this department where there are land problems in various areas, we have decided to carry out a number of expropriations that have been carefully thought out. Those expropriations will essentially favor the small producers who have no land and the cooperatives. [end recording]

ANN EXPLAINS PLANS FOR INTERNATIONAL EXPANSION

PA241434 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 18 May 82 p 5

[By Edgard Barberena S.]

[Text] With the upcoming opening of offices in Panama and New York, the NEW NICARAGUAN NEWS AGENCY (ANN), the official spokesman of the Sandinist revolution abroad, will take an important step forward in its daily efforts to neutralize the transnational news agencies' campaign against Nicaragua.

Next week, ANN -- founded 32 months ago -- will open its offices in the Panamanian capital, in an effort to expand the voice of the revolution internationally. Carlos Humberto Castillo and Francisco Hernandez Segura are the director general and assistant director, respectively.

Approached by BARRICADA, ANN information director William Gribsby Vado told us that ANN will also open new offices in the UN building in New York, which will permit the revolutionary process to project itself more effectively. "Our purpose," Gribsby said, "is to open offices in the primary Latin American and European countries and to establish channels of cooperation with various news agencies that permit us to reach other nations of the world."

ANN's General Directorate also intends to open offices in Canada, Venezuela and the FRG before the end of 1982 and in Moscow by 1983. The latter office will serve as the headquarters for the socialist bloc of nations, which will allow better communication between those countries and the Sandinist revolution. Gribsby said that it is important to note that the agency already has a translation department for French and English, which conveys information from Nicaragua to the noted French newspapers LE MONDE, L'HUMANITE, LE MATIN and to French magazines, as well as to Canada.

English transmissions are sent to Europe, where they are channeled daily by the different committees of solidarity with Nicaragua to 100 Western information services. Transmissions are also sent to the Scandinavia, where the progress of the Sandinist revolution is followed by many information organizations from Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark, including the official Swedish Radio.

In addition, ANN is published in Costa Rica, Mexico and Honduras, through the effort of its correspondents, who report daily to ANN's central editorial office in Managua. The greatest percentage of ANN publications are used by the Mexican newspapers UNO MAS UNO, EL DIA, EXCELSIOR and UNIVERSAL, and in the Mexican cultural radio, television, Channel 11 and various Mexican magazines. These publications use 20 percent ANN material, compared to other news agencies' material.

Another means that ANN uses to project the revolution internationally is the nonaligned pool of agencies. The information transmitted is received daily by over 90 member-nations. In addition, ANN is currently a member of the NATIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS ACTIVITY (ASIN), which groups official agencies from Mexico, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Guyana, Costa Rica, Panama, Peru, Ecuador, Grenada and Jamaica, using the INTER-PRESS SERVICE (IPS) transmission channel.

ANN was founded on 19 October 1979. It was first located on the seventh floor of TELCOR's Zacarias Guerra building. At present it is located at the former French Alliance installations and has a staff of 75 people who work daily to disseminate information on Nicaragua.

ANN has signed agreements with other international news agencies, such as PRENSA LATINA (PL), TASS, BULGARSKA TELEGRAFNA AGENTSIYA (BTA) of Bulgaria, MAGYAR TAVIRATI IRODA (MTI) of Hungary, CZECHOSLAVENSKA TISKOVA KANCELAR (CTK) of Czechoslovakia, POLSKA AGENCJA PRASOWA (PAP) of Poland and the ALLEGEMEINER DEUTSCHER NACHRICHTENDIENST (ADN) of the GDR.

In addition, ANN's news exchange has extended to the THONG TAN XA VIETNAM (VNA) of Vietnam, the CHOSON CHUNGANG TONGSIN (KCNA) of the Democratic Republic of Korea, and the INTER PRESS SERVICE (IPS) of Italy.

This service includes the cooperation of international organizations such as the Canadian Overseas University Service (CSUCO), which donated $70,000 to ANN; and the governments of Libya and Cuba, which also helped in the development of the NEW NICARAGUAN NEWS AGENCY.

Several ANN journalists have received technical training courses in Italy, Cuba and Nicaragua, and there are three ANN technicians currently in Moscow, taking courses on electronic and telegraphic communications, in order to maintain the revolution's complex communications structure.

Gribsby pointed out that there are plans to expand ANN's photography department. For this purpose, negotiations with international organizations are already underway, in an effort to obtain the financing required to allow the agency to send photographic images of what is happening in the country to various countries. "We know that our work is difficult, but we believe that we will forge ahead through daily effort and with the encouragement offered us by the consolidation of the revolutionary process. Thus we will overcome the obstacles and difficulties ahead," William Gribsby concluded.

FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPLAINS HELICOPTER HIJACKING

PA250409 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] The propaganda and press office of the Nicaraguan Foreign Affairs Ministry reported this afternoon that on Saturday, 22 May, three men and a woman hijacked a helicopter in Chinandega Department, which they used to fly to Choluteca, Honduras. The propaganda and press office also reported that these persons are not members of the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, as ACAN-EFE had hastily reported. Odoniel Ortega, the group leader, was a leading member of the Confederation for Unity of Trade Unions, CUS, and was jailed three times on charges of trying to artificially bankrupt a business, the propaganda and press office added.

It was learned at the Foreign Ministry that the helicopter belongs to (Rodolfo Reeder Escobar), who had it painted blue and white, and not to the EPS. The Foreign Ministry has sent a note to the Honduran authorities asking for the extradition of the hijackers and the return of the helicopter.

MEETING WITH COSTA RICAN GUARD TERMED 'VERY GOOD'

PA270418 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2319 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] Managua, 26 May (ACAN-EFE) -- Humberto Ortega, commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army, today termed the meeting held yesterday between Nicaraguan military officials and Costa Rican Civil Guard officials as "very good." Ortega said that during the meeting, the Costa Ricans disclosed that they have stepped up patrols in the border region to prevent the activity of anti-Sandinist groups or of common criminals. Nicaragua proposed joint patrols, but the Costa Ricans answered that they saw no need for it.

Commander Hilario Sanchez, chief of the southern military region, and Commander Roberto Calderon, chief of the general staff of that same region, represented Nicaragua at the meeting. Oscar Vidal Quezada, chief of the Civil Guard, went to the meeting on behalf of Costa Rica.

Commander Ortega said the Costa Ricans had expressed their intention to maintain their neutrality because they want the best relations with the Nicaraguan Government.

Regarding the expulsion of Eden Pastora, Commander "Cero", whose whereabouts are unknown, Ortega said the decision by the government of President Luis Alberto Monge was "very mature." In reference to Pastora, Commander Ortega said that the Sandinist government only has reports indicating that "he travelled south."

CUBAN INTERNATIONALIST BRIGADE TO RETURN HOME

PA270307 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 May 82

[Text] After 4 months of participating in the Nicaraguan sugarcane harvest, the (Onelio Hernandez) brigade from Cuba, will return home shortly. The Cuban brigade has 38 members. During its stay, it shared the work with our brothers in the fields, cutting 1,266,000 arrobas of sugarcane for the Julio Bruitrago and German Pomares Ordonez sugar mills. For their solidary cooperation in the country, these companeros received some 200,000 cordobas, which they donated for the construction of schools in the Tasba Pri settlement.

During a farewell ceremony held at the (Cesar Augusto Silva) recreational center and attended by the Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock, Cuban brigade member (Fernando Caraballedo), speaking for the group, said that it had been extremely satisfying to have worked with the Nicaraguan companeros, who made a wholehearted effort to complete their task. He added that the brigade members had a profitable experience cutting sugarcane in rainy places like the German Pomares sugar mill.

Finally, Companero (Caraballedo) paid tribute to the Nicaraguans who are raising production in the sugarcane harvest. He praised the bonds of friendship established between the workers of both countries.

BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR SAYS AID UNCONDITIONED

PA262351 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 May 82

[Text] The Bulgarian ambassador to Nicaragua has stressed that Bulgaria will increase its credits for assistance to Nicaragua without any conditions, Companero Kiril Zlatkov Nikolov told our reporters that credits granted by the Republic of Bulgaria to date total $37 million and are mainly destined for the development of certain economic sectors in Nicaragua. This statement was made in reply to questions regarding Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz's announcement of the granting of credits by Bulgaria following his return from Eastern Europe.

Nikolov said that part of the credit is destined for the construction of the hydroelectric power station on the Ye-Ye River and to build a transformer repair shop. Another part is destined for the reconstruction of the (Vesubio) mine on the Atlantic coast and for exploratory geological studies in an effort to increase our mineral reserves. Another part is destined to rebuild (INFRUDALAC), the fruit preserves factory in Granada, and to build a similar factory in Sebaco later on. The ambassador added that there are also plans to build a baby food factory. A certain amount of the credit will be used to buy agricultural machinery, metal-cutting machinery, textiles, electrical appliances, etc.

Another part of the credit will be used to improve telecommunications, to build central telephone stations and to fulfill the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services, TELCOR, plans to extend telephone communications to 80 towns. I would like to stress, the Bulgarian diplomat said, that all these projects which will be built with the cooperation of socialist Bulgaria will not exhaust the credits because they can be increased to finish these works within a medium term.

Asked if this aid implied a political obligation on Nicaragua's part, Ambassador Kiril Zlatkov Nikolov caterorically replied:

[Begin recording] None. The aid, or rather the assistance given by the Bulgarian Government and people is entirely in keeping with the nature of a socialist state. In Bulgaria, power lies with the people. And the people, like any other people, feel a sense of solidarity and friendship with other peoples. In other words, the aid, the assistance that the People's Republic of Bulgaria gives to the Republic of Nicaragua is friendly assistance without conditions. It is aid given with respect and its fundamental objective is to help the Nicaraguan economy develop and to create new sources of employment for the Nicaraguan people. This aid is destined to improve the Nicaraguan people's living standards and to consolidate the Sandinist people's revolution. [end recording]

DANIEL ORTEGA ANNOUNCES MEASURES AGAINST ROBELO

PA252252 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 May 82

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, in event marking the third anniversary of death of Commander German Pomares; in El Viejo, Chinandega Department, 24 May -- recorded]

[Excerpt] This revolution has consistently promoted a policy of unity; a policy of unity around the interests of the workers; a policy of unity around the interests of the peasants, workers and poor of this country. In this sense, the revolution has been flexible, giving the capitalists and wealthy the opportunity to stay in this country if they so desire and to work for the benefit of the people.

However, not all have responded as they should. Not all have shown with facts what they should. Not all have taken advantage of the great opportunity that the revolution has given them; to stop being exploiters and to act as true Nicaraguans; to stop being selfish and to act like brothers; to stop being pharisees and to act like Christians.

The revolution gave that opportunity to a man whose name I do not want to mention so as not to dirty the clean air of El Viejo. [applause] We will only say that the revolution gave this opportunity to a capitalist gentlemen, owner of (Punta Nata), owner of cooking oil companies and owner of many businesses, a man who even enjoyed the opportunity granted by a victorious revolution like ours to be a member of the government junta. [Ortega is referring to Alfonso Robelo]. Obeying his selfish capitalist and exploitive interests above all, that man resigned from the government junta and left the junta thinking that, by so doing, the revolution would sink. But that man's resignation did not harm the revolution.

For some time that man stayed in Nicaragua. He tried to organize the selfish, the exploiters and the bandits. The revolution gave him the opportunity to organize and to have radio programs, to speak and have propaganda in the newspapers, to receive aid from abroad and to continue a policy of capitulation and selling out. And in those conditions, the revolution respected those opportunities he was given and gave him space.

However, a few weeks ago and in the company of a few members of his party, that man left Nicaragua. We already knew what the departure meant. We waited for them to speak. We waited for them to show their true faces. They have now appeared making statements in Costa Rica. Other statements have been published in newspapers of other parts of Central America. In those statements, that man has assumed an aggressive attitude against our revolution. He says that there are no opportunities for them here and that he has decided to leave the country in order to get ready to struggle in other ways against our revolution.

He said that he will join a number that no longer represents anything in Nicaragua. [Referring to Eden Pastora, Commander Cero] the enemies of the people are meeting and uniting. This is logical. It was very difficult for a man with his interests to understand the hard-working people of Nicaragua.

Now that he has taken this stance, openly plotting against the revolution, now that he has begun to do what he never did during Somoza's time because he never had the courage to confront Somozism with the determination he now has, now that he has joined those who are bringing bloodshed to Nicaragua, now that he has joined the imperialist and Somozist aggression, we cannot continue to be indulgent regarding his property. We must state that the revolutionary government will intervene in (Punta Nata); we will intervene in Gracsa. [lengthy applause, chanting of slogans]. We will intervene in all that man's properties. His home which is very pretty will become the office of the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen. [applause, chanting of slogans]

We must state that those people who are in the country and are working those people who have stock in those enterprises and who feel free of guilt have nothing to worry about. They should not worry because the people and the revolution will protect them. We are not acting against those who are truly determined to work in this country. We are acting and will always act against all those who plot against our revolution, against those who act against revolution, against all those who try to destroy the revolutionary power. Those people shall not pass.

Comments on U.S. Policy

PA252328 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 21 May 82 p 1

[Text] Government Junta Coordinator Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra said yesterday that "Nicaragua is still willing to find a negotiated solution for the current situation in Central America and the Caribbean, caused by U.S. policy."

The Sandinist leader pointed out that Nicaragua has been waiting for a serious and definite reply from the United States in order to look for solutions to the problem, but "so far the present U.S. administration has not been receptive" to our invitation,

Commander Ortega Saavedra made this statement at the Augusto C. Sandino Airport yesterday, where he went to meet Sergio Ramirez Mercado.

Regarding the conflict between Argentina and the United Kingdom, Commander Ortega Saavedra once again reiterated Nicaragua's unconditional support for the South American nation.

Ortega also said that Rodrigo Carazo Odio recently wrote him about his proposal of transferring the OAS headquarters from Washington. Nicaragua, shares with other Latin American countries the idea presented by the former Costa Rican president, Ortega-Saaverda said.

THREE MILITIA BATTALIONS WILL PROTECT MANAGUA

PA222248 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 May 82

[Text] Three militia battalions will be responsible for the defense of the capital city. At the departmental meeting of the Managua militia group leaders held last night at the auditorium of the 3d Militiary Region it was announced that three militia battalions have been formed and that they will be responsible for the protection of our capital in case of enemy aggression. These battalions are named: Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino, Commander in Chief Carlos Fonseca and Commander German Pomares Ordonez. These battalions will be made up of militia members who were most outstanding in their training and revolutionary willingness to fight for the defense of the fatherland.

MOZAMBIQUE'S SAMORA MACHEL RECEIVES MARTI ORDER

Valdes' Awarding Speech

FL262037 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0040 GMT 26 May 82

[Speech by Interior Minister Ramiro Valdes, member of Cuba's Communist Party Politburo, awarding the Order of Jose Marti to Mozambican President Marshal Samora Moises Machel at the Palace of the Revolution reception hall in Havana -- live]

[Text] Comrade Fidel, dear Comrade Samora Machel, dear Mozambican and Cuban Comrades, several days ago, when we began to receive news of your tour through various revolutionary and progressive countries in the Central American and Caribbean areas, we happily and impatiently awaited the moment when we would once again welcome you, dear friend and comrade, Samora Machel, representative of the honorable, militant and solidary people of Mozambique.

With sincere admiration, which grew even more as we learned of the tensions and the brutal aggressions which your heroic fatherland has been subjected to, we came to appreciate your efforts to bring together and unite even more the revolutionary peoples of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, at a time when the struggle against imperialism and its warlike and reactionary policy requires, like never before, that close unity, our recognition of you grew for the outstanding part you have played in the revolutionary and national liberation movement of our era. At the same time the example you have set reaffirmed our conviction that there is only one best way to be a revolutionary in today's world -- to be Marxist-Leninist and internationalist.

Now, as was logical, your travels have brought you to our country. Although the people of Mozambique and Cuba are never far apart, although we keep in close contact and maintain the most fraternal relations, nothing can take the place of this direct contact. Two brothers always have much to say to each other and we all hope that your stay on Cuban soil will be truly positive and fruitful for our friendship, cooperation and for the common struggle in which we are engaged.

Some years have passed since your previous visits to Cuba. They have been years full of risks and enormous complexities for all the countries struggling to build an independent life. It has been a period during which the international economic crisis has become worse and imperialist policy has veered toward the dangerous path of military confrontation and the arms race.

It is times such as these that test true statesmen. Our people, who already admired you as an outstanding organizer of armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism, as a revolutionary fighter with clear political ideals and strong character, as a fighter who because of his reputation, ability and deep roots in the masses, succeeded in becoming the Frelimo's top leader and president of the young People's Republic of Mozambique, have found many new reasons during these years to appreciate, honor and respect you more each day.

History has taught us that each revolution's difficult road to power is only a prelude to the much more difficult and complex stage which follows victory. The efforts being made by the heroic Mozambican people under your leadership, in order to eliminate in the shortest possible time the terrible hunger, sickness, illiteracy, ignorance and misery left by colonialism in its 5 centuries of domination, are really very impressive.

As revolutionaries, we are thrilled to learn of the important achievements already attained in this battle. How, despite the lack of a framework and a sufficiently developed economic base, the new Mozambique of the workers and peasants, steps forward, promotes education, provides health services, strengthens agriculture, forges the conscience of the new man and boldly proclaims a policy of principles based on unity and solidarity with the international revolutionary movement, while at the same time, it justly teaches the people to have confidence in themselves and in their own strength to play a decisive and leading role in the revolution.

This effort, however, is hindered by the criminal aggressions of the South African regime. Along with the rest of the frontline states, and with particular violence, Mozambique is target of an open policy of hostility and undeclared war. Shamelessly supported by the present Yankee administration, the racists encourage plundering and sabotage, commit terrorist atrocities against the civilian population and try, by all means available, to destabilize the Mozambican revolution.

But the heroic struggle of the soldiers and of all the people against these aggressions reaffirm our conviction that there is no force in the world capable of forcing the Mozambican people to renounce the revolutionary path they embraced 20 years ago and have followed with exemplary tenacity and heroic determination.

The things we have expressed here, more than justify the decision of our party and state's top leadership to award you, Dear Comrade Samora Machel, our country's highest decoration, the Order of Jose Marti. As much as you may be honored in receiving it, we are honored in awarding it.

Jose Marti, the brilliant Cuban who by his eternal presence encourages the march of our people on the paths of the revolution, said on one occasion that just as mountains come to a peak, waves to a crest and trees to a crown, so do peoples culminate [words indistinct].

In decorating you today, Comrade Samora Machel, we also decorate your self-sacrificing people, your vanguard party and the honorable and noble cause of your revolutionary fatherland. Receive this order from the hands of Comrade Fidel as a symbol of our friendship, affection and of the indestructible combative brotherhood which unites and always will unite our two peoples. Thank you. [applause]

Acceptance Speech

FL261515 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0048 GMT 26 May 82

[Speech by Mozambican President Samora Moises Machel after accepting the Jose Marti Order from the hands of Fidel Castro at the reception hall of the Palace of the Revolution in Havana -- live; in Portuguese]

[Text] Dear and most respected Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, dear Cuban comrades. Throughout the history of mankind the struggles for the liberation of the peoples have taught us that unity is a prerequisite for victory.

Upon receiving the Jose Marti Order, we see in this fraternal gesture between comrades-in-arms an example of the unity between peoples that are linked by the same cultural roots and a background of struggle. We also see it as evidence of the unity between two parties that share the same communist goals and the same destiny.

The history of exploitation [of the peoples] united us and guided us toward our common destiny. The exploiters, those that once locked us to the same chain, are now trying to divide us by attacking our most essential tool, that is, unity.

Our peoples have freed themselves from the colonial whip, from the slavers, from the sugarcane fields, where slave labor was the source of profits and luxury for a minority which uses us as beasts of burden.

When we cast off the yoke that was choking us, we conquered the sword that was enslaving us. Throughout the rebellion of the slaves, we always seek in our unity the inspiration for each new struggle against today's slave drivers: capitalism and imperialism.

The Cuban people pay homage to the memory of Jose Marti by epitomizing in this award his struggle and ideology that became a weapon against the exploiters. This award epitomizes in a noble manner the unity between the peoples. Jose Marti fought to free Cuba from the colonial yoke, but he also turned his struggle into a powerful anti-imperialist movement and cast the seeds of revolt among the oppressed peoples of Latin America.

Jose Marti, Simon Bolivar, Augusto Cesar Sandino, Farabundo Marti, are the combat generals of which Latin America is proud, and the source of inspiration for the struggles which are being waged throughout the continent to obtain freedom and liquidate an exploiting empire.

Yesterday we received the Playa Giron Order as a homage to the Mozambican combatants who planted the tree of freedom in our fatherland amid the gun fire from our weapons. Playa Giron epitomizes the revolutionary struggle of the Cuban people for their right to build socialism.

Today, the Jose Marti Order is yet another homage to my people and their internationalism. Marti, a national and Latin American hero, is the symbol of struggle, resistance and internationalism of the Cuban people.

As in the past, Marti's internationalist example lives in the Cuban people who, without regard for sacrifices, are offering their arms, their unselfish efforts, their intelligence and even their lives, to strengthen the worldwide revolution.

Over the last few years the Cuban people have written glorious pages of contemporary history and their achievements will always be remembered by the coming generations as examples of a courageous, brave and determined people that stand in the way of the criminal actions of imperialism by building socialism. These achievements will be remembered by coming generations as a lesson taught by people who have a deep understanding of the political, moral and ethical values of proletarian internationalism.

Cuba still feels the mourning of widows that have lost their husbands, of mothers who have lost their sons, of orphans whose fathers have died for the cause of internationalism. However, this mourning, instead of weakening the spirit of the internationalist struggle, has become the source of new strength and the struggle is going on with the same revolutionary energy wherever the presence of Cuban combatants is necessary to guarantee the victory of justice, freedom and progress.

Cuba has become the messenger of peace in the world, it is the carrier of the creative strength of Marx and Lenin's ideas. History will record in golden letters Cuba's internationalist example as an essential contribution to the victory of the revolution and socialism in the world.

The Cuban people have enough cause to feel proud of their fatherland, their revolution, their party, and especially of their supreme leader, our beloved and most esteemed brother and comrade-in-arms, Fidel Castro Ruz, and of the revolutionaries of the entire continent. Thus, we feel honored at having Cuba as our certain ally, our brother, our comrade-in-arms. We are proud of having the land for which Jose Marti spilled his blood as our second fatherland. We wish to convey our heartfelt gratitude comrades, especially to Comrade Fidel Castro, on behalf of the Mozambican people, of the Frelimo Party, of the Government of the People's Republic of Mozambique and of the Mozambican communists, for this gesture of internationalism, friendship and solidarity.

We receive the Jose Marti Order from your hands, from the callused hands of hard-working combatants, from your generous heart of honest and dignified men. We received the Jose Marti Order from men who have made internationalism the highest expression of revolutionary humanism.

Kanemambu [thank you], Cuban combatants, kanemambu, Cuba's Communist Party, kanemambu National Assembly of the people's government. The struggle goes on, the revolution will win, socialism will prevail. Thank you comrades. [applause, military march played]

ECUADOR

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON AIRCRAFT DETAINED IN U.S.

PA270214 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 May 82

[Excerpt] Defense Ministry spokesman have said that the Ecuatoriana de Aviacion plane detained in New York yesterday is not carrying weapons for Argentina but spare parts and supplies for the Ecuadorean Air Force. A communique issued by the Defense Ministry said the necessary formalities and investigations are being made to allow the aircraft to continue its flight to this capital city. The ministry made the following statement of clarification:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker in progress] ...the Ecuatoriana de Aviacion plane held at New York's Kennedy Airport is carrying cargo strictly for the Ecuadorean Air Force and not, as is being said, weapons for Argentina. The communique adds that this kind of cargo flight is done according to the needs of the institution. Once authorities have clarified the matter by submitting the necessary documentation to the U.S. Government,the Ecuatoriana de Aviacion plane will continue its normal flight to Ecuador.

STUDENT DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST SUCRE DEVALUATION

PA270242 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 26 May 82

[Excerpts] For the second consecutive day students from the National University and several Quito schools are demonstrating to protest the devaluation of the sucre. Police had to intervene to stop the demonstrations; they used tear gas and confronted the students in a pitched battle.

SURINAME

GOVERNMENT BACKS ARGENTINA IN FALKLANDS CONFLICT

PM270937 Amsterdam DE VOLKSKRANT in Dutch 24 May 82 p 3

[Text] Paramaribo -- The Surinamese Government Saturday expressed its solidarity with the Argentine people, despite the Surinamese view of the Argentine Government," and called for withdrawal of British troops from the Falkland Islands and resumption of diplomatic talks, the Surinamese press agency SNA announced Sunday. The government statement expressed support for "continued Argentine sovereignty."

"Through their support for Britain, the Western powers have again shown that they have no respect for the just endeavors of Third World countries to use their own resources for their own progress," Paramaribo stated.

VENEZUELA

NEW ORGANIZATION PROPOSES TO REPLACE OAS

PY261842 Paris AFP in Spanish 1804 GMT 26 May 82

[Excerpt] Lima, 26 May (AFP) -- Venezuela proposed here today the creation of an Organization of Latin American States to replace the OAS because of the Malvinas crisis. The proposal was made by Andres Mercau, Venezuelan representative who arrived today to participate in a meeting of the Andean Commission, the highest organ of the Andean Pact, and in another Andean-Argentine meeting.

He explained that the OAS with U.S. participation has not yielded any results and that the abandonment by that country of the regional cause in the Anglo-Argentine conflict has rendered a new organization indispensable. Mercau said Latin America, with its more than 300 million inhabitants, can become a power and that it should now act independently, withut following in the steps of any other power.